

"Yes," said Enrique, back in Australia, "This is a problem," but this is a very beautiful project and an important one; we need one in Spanish, too. I need this book, so does my daughter. I'll try and find you someone."

When Enrique returned to Rapa Nui I received an email from his cousin Patricia Riroroko Laharoa. Patricia is a teacher at the primary school and she was willing to give up her time to write this book with me. So we began. We have done the bones of eight chapters now. We spent Christmas and New Years 2006 almost daily, developing the dialogues in the book and doing test recordings. Many women came in from the language department and elsewhere to contribute to the conversations we designed and assist with accuracy of the translations, explanations and grammar.

There will be both a Spanish and an English version. The final product will go through the fine toothcomb of language/culture specialists on the island before going to print. We have established deadlines so that it does not become a dusty relic on that mighty unfinished-project shelf. Patricia and I have thus far donated our time, working around our usual professions, as has everyone else. But the project now requires funding to meet deadlines.

If you wish to be a supporter of this project - along with the Easter Island Foundation - your donation will be acknowledged, and will also be noted with gratitude in the preface. Please address any support to the Easter Island Foundation, PO Box 6774, Los Osos, CA 93412, and specify that it is for Petra's Rapanui Language Project. *Maururu.*

CONFERENCES

A FORUM TITLED "Politics and Sovereignty: Colonial Legacies in Oceania," sponsored by the Center for the Americas, Wesleyan University, Connecticut, will be held on Friday, 29 September 2006, at the Mansfield Freeman Center of East Asian Studies. One of the featured presentations will be "Self Determination or Integration? The Uneasy Relationship between Rapa Nui and Chile" by Riet Delsing, Ph.D. Candidate, University of California, Santa Cruz.

THE PACIFIC ARTS ASSOCIATION IXth International Symposium will take place at the Quai Branly Museum in Paris, France, from July 5-8, 2007. Special events and tours are planned for July 2-4, 2007.

Many museums today are being rebuilt or redesigned, reflecting current philosophy and approaches to Oceanic art. Areas of discussion include histories of collections and the role of indigenous Pacific artists and scholars.

The local organizing committee in Paris includes Phillipe Peltier, Yves Le Fur, and Magali Melandri. For information: <http://www.pacificarts.org>

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

AT THE MEETING OF THE BOARD of the Easter Island Foundation in April 2006, Christopher Stevenson turned over the reigns of the presidency after completing two 2-year terms. The Board thanked Chris for his leadership for the past several years. He is not gone, however, he will still serve as Vice President for International Conferences. Kay Kenady Sanger is our new 1st Vice President. Joan Seaver Kurze accepted the position as Secretary for the Foundation, and Frank Morin continues as Treasurer.

The Board sadly accepted the resignation of Alan Drake who has been a dedicated member for many years and was Webmaster for the EIF webpage (islandheritage.org). Ann Altman and Shawn McLaughlin also left the Board. Shawn, another significant contributor and author of *The Complete Guide to Easter Island*, is now in the process of revising his book and we were all very pleased when the playwright Edward Albee described his visit to Easter Island in the Sunday Travel section of the *New York Times* and gave Shawn's book a very favorable mention.

The EIF has always considered its scholarship program to be one of its major functions, and this year we decided to increase the amounts of our scholarship awards. The scholarship award recipients for 2006 were announced and the lucky, and worthy, winners are:

- Daniela Macarena Araki Gonzales, (Nicolas Haoa Sr. Award). Daniela is in her second year studying early childhood education.
- Antonio Fernando Munoz Tuki, (EIF Scholarship). Antonio is a second-year law student.
- Tiare Aguilera Hey, (EIF Director's Award). Tiare is a third-year law student.
- Ioan Soler Hotu, (Weigand Award). This is Ioan's third year as a Weigand recipient.
- Juana Luna Atamu, (Weigand Award). This is Juana's second year as a Weigand recipient.

The EIF congratulates all of the scholarship recipients and wishes them well as they go forward in their academic careers.

In addition to the scholarship awards, several grants were given to graduate students to assist them with research projects and fieldwork. The projects involved subject matter as varied as creating a database of skeletal materials and associated DNA for the Museo Antropológico Sebastián Englert (Peter Ragen, St Mary's College, Maryland); supporting Earthwatch fieldwork at the La Pérouse area (Mara Mulrooney, a graduate student from University of Auckland); dating pollen sediment from Rano Kau (Candace Gossen, a graduate student at the University of Oregon); to creating a series of CDs to preserve and assist in learning the Rapanui language (Petra Campbell, Australia).

In addition, the EIF expanded its scope of supported projects by providing assistance for the construction and in-

stallation of a high-efficiency toilet that uses very little water. It will be installed at the National Park site of 'Orongo. It will help both the environment and cleanliness of this unique World Heritage Site.

Also, in our new excursion into environmental issues, we provided grant support for an industrial-size vegetation shredder to assist in disposing of debris from land clearance efforts and also providing much-needed compost.

Of course, looking forward, our most significant efforts will be directed to planning and organizing the VII International Conference on Easter Island and the Pacific, co-hosted by Gotland University. An informational flier has been sent out and additional information is available elsewhere in this volume of the *Rapa Nui Journal* as well as on the conference web site. Session chairs have been selected, papers are being solicited, and we are looking forward to an exciting and interesting meeting. We are hoping that the Scandinavian location will increase the attendance of our European colleagues. In addition, post-conference activities in Norway and Sweden have been organized which will make for an exciting conclusion to the conference. We look forward to seeing all of you in Gotland.

As I assume the presidency of the Board of the EIF, I look forward to working with the many excellent and dedicated members of the Board to help preserve the archaeological treasures of Easter Island, to assist the Rapanui people, including students, and promote scientific knowledge about Easter Island and other Pacific islands.

David L. Rose, President of the Board of Directors



Ioan Soler Hotus at his graduation, in June of this year, from El Camino College (Los Angeles) with a major in Computer Information Systems. He plans to continue his studies at Brigham Young University in Hawai'i. Congratulations Ioan!

CONGRATULATIONS TO IOAN SOLER HOTUS, one of the Foundation's scholarship winners and recipient of a Wiegand Foundation award. Ioan recently graduated from El Camino College (Los Angeles) with a major in Computer Information Systems. He hopes to continue his studies, working toward a BA degree at Brigham Young University, Hawai'i. His goal is to teach computer technology at the high school on Easter Island.

Ioan wrote: "While attending school I have been away from Rapa Nui a long period of time, totaling 5 years, with a very short visit in the winter of 2002. Being away from my social environment, family and roots had a tremendous impact on my development as a student and person, and also strengthened my own abilities and talents which I will be able to apply on behalf of my own people in the near future. Receiving the scholarship motivates me to maintain my focus, energy and attitude to complete my degree. I look forward to being able to give back to the community once I begin my career in teaching. I thank you for your confidence and willingness to help me achieve my goals."



The island's new governor, Melania Carolina Hotus met with the EIF's Marla Wold this summer on the island. Marla is the chairman of the Easter Island Foundation's scholarship program and brought good news about the Foundation's scholarship program: the EIF is increasing the dollar amount of the scholarship awards from US\$2000 to US\$3000 per school year, per student.

FROM THE EIF OFFICE

GREETINGS FROM BAYWOOD PARK! We have been very busy at the EIF Office over the past few months. An article about Easter Island in the Sunday travel section of the *New York Times* by playwright Edward Albee mentioned *The Complete Guide to Easter Island* by Shawn McLaughlin as the book to have when traveling to Rapa Nui. The weekend the article appeared, we sold out of all remaining copies of the book and quickly initiated a second printing. As this issue of the *Journal* goes to press, we are preparing for a third printing! We thank Mr Albee for his excellent article that draws attention to the guidebook, to the EIF, as well as to the island itself.

Our newest publication is *Rapa Nui, Island of Memory* by Georgia Lee. The 238 page book is illustrated with black and white photographs, eight pages of color photographs, plus many of Lee's own pen and ink drawings. There is a glossary and a time-line, plus references.

The Foreword of the book is by Cultural Theorist, Dr Beverley Haun. *Island of Memory* is a memoir of life on Easter Island in the early 1980s, and is a must-have for anyone who has visited the island or who has an interest in life on Rapa Nui in those days when airplanes came once a week, maybe; there was no direct TV nor telephone service; and few tourists ventured to the island. Those who assisted on Georgia's early projects to document the island's petroglyphs will particularly enjoy it. The book sells for \$25.

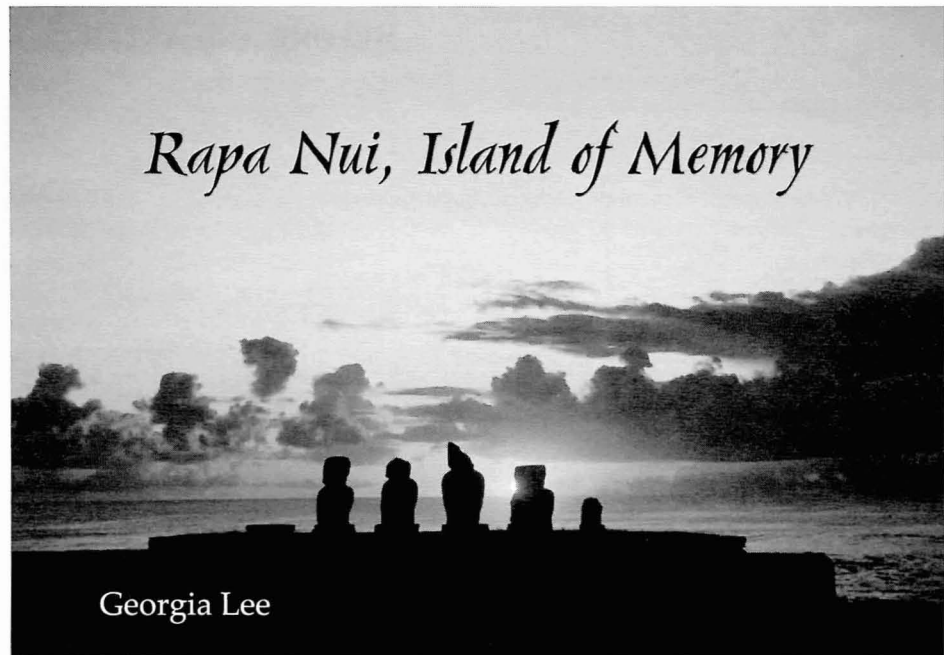
We have four beautiful new bookmarks, thanks to talented EIF member Paul Horley. The new designs are pen and ink drawings and each one illustrates a different facet of the island: a *moai*, birdmen petroglyphs at 'Orongo, a painted *ao* paddle, and a *moai kava kava*. We sell a set of four bookmarks for \$2; a complimentary bookmark is included with each book ordered. You can see them on our website:

www.islandheritage.org

We have reprinted the book *Ra'ivavae*, written by Edmundo Edwards. The 2005 edition has been revised and updated with the assistance of EIF member Dr Sidsel Millerstrom and is available for \$25.

We also have reprinted our lovely notecards that display a pen-and-ink *moai* image drawn by Tom Scalise; we are offering these for a special price: \$10 for ten cards with matching envelopes.

We have recently received donations of some out-of-print books. Please check our website for the current listing of books available. As always, we have a few slightly-damaged copies of some of our books, so you are looking for a bargain, let us know.



Rapa Nui, Island of Memory is a celebration of the people of Rapa Nui, embracing their continuity with the past. Lee's memoir of her life and times on Easter Island in the 1980s is a rollicking good story, by turns hilarious and poignant (from the Introduction, by Beverley Haun). Oh, to have been there in those earlier days!

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